

The Liberal Democrat

Ninth Year, Number 37

LIBERAL, SEWARD COUNTY, KANSAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1916

\$1.50 Per Year

Gold Near Liberal

Joe Bryson, fat man, good fellow and old-timer, who has been riding the ranges of the southwest these many years, was never suspected of harboring a secret in his life, but a recent discovery on the part of his friends has revealed something that even those closest to him never suspected.

Joe owns a ranch down on Ten-Mile creek, southwest of Beaver, and has always posed as a cattle baron among the people who knew him. But the unprecedented air of prosperity that has hovered over him during the last few months has made even his friends regard him with suspicion, and a few decided to find out its source. Joe is very reticent by nature and one almost has to use a stomach pump or a corkscrew to get any information out of him regarding his personal affairs, but once in a while he would condescend to speak about a "prospect hole" he owned out in Arizona, and he always carried such a mysterious air when saying anything about it that J. E. George, Jim Maloney, and a few other local capitalists tried to buy an interest in the same. The fact that he shows up at the First National Bank of Liberal every once in so often with a good sized bag of gold dust served to add to the wonderment of its source, and his friends were beginning to think it was a secret that would go down in silence to the grave with him.

Everyone overshoots his mark, however, sooner or later, and Joe's invitation of a few friends to his ranch last week proved his undoing, and has further proved that the gold mine was located on the ranch instead of Arizona. A few years ago Joe bought several pairs of ducks and placed them on the ranch, with the freedom of that part of the Ten Mile that traverses the same. These ducks swim in the creek and occasionally dive down after a bill full of mud; this mud happens to be liberally sprinkled with gold dust, which sticks in their crops (or craws, if you like that better), and when Joe runs short of money he rounds up fifteen or twenty ducks, kills them and removes the contents of their crops (or craws), pans out the proceeds in an old skillet, sacks it up and brings it to the First National bank, where it is duly credited to his account, and thus Joe is always lousy with money and only has to work enough to get up an appetite. The only regrettable part of the whole performance, as Joe sees it, is that the gold only runs about twenty dollars to the duck, and he has to go slow at slaughtering time or his herd might give out. The reason he went there last week was in hopes he might be able, with the snow on the ground, to track the ducks to the location of the gold, but they're wise old ducks and remained perfectly stationary until he got nearly to Beaver.

Mrs. Harry Noel arrived Saturday from Amarillo to spend a week or two at the home of her parents, Judge and Mrs. L. A. Etzold.

Even the Bad Weather

Could Not Keep the Crowds Away From the

Big Annual Sale at

Chas. Summers & Sons
"THE QUALITY STORE"

The Firm With 37 Yrs. Successful Merchandising

Saturday, January 29, the first day of our sale, was by far the biggest day we have ever had in our history--this proves that our thousands of customers absolutely know that

We Sell as We Advertise

Saturday, February 5th is the Last Day of Sale

Beaver County's Oil Well

There is considerable excitement over in Beaver county these days regarding the reported finding of oil near Gate. Last week's Forgan Eagle had the following account of it: "The visitors at the Gate oil well Sunday met and talked with R. B. Rutherford, president, and G. G. Wilcox, secretary of the oil company, and these officers took particular pains to tell our people about the excitement that had been on there regarding the claim of some that oil had been struck. They tell us that the reports that had been circulated about oil being struck was not authorized by any one in charge. They say, however, that to the ones not familiar with the oil, could easily take what was taken out of the well for oil and that there was a great many who was positive it was oil. The officers of the company and the drillers all agree that they have every indication of oil, and they firmly believe if they can go to 2,500 or 3,000 feet they will strike it."

START WITH
\$127.50
MAKES
NEXT CHRISTMAS
10¢

**If You JOIN
OUR CHRISTMAS
BANKING
CLUB**

COSTS NOTHING TO JOIN

1¢ FOR THE FIRST WEEK AND AN INCREASE OF 1¢ EACH WEEK. IN 50 WEEKS:

1-CENT CLUB PAYS	\$ 12.75
2-CENT CLUB PAYS	25.50
5-CENT CLUB PAYS	63.75
10-CENT CLUB PAYS	127.50

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WE ALSO HAVE CLUBS WHERE YOU PAY IN 25 OR 50¢ OR \$1.00 OR MORE EACH WEEK.
COME IN--WE WILL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT.
COME IN AND GET A CHRISTMAS BANKING CLUB BOOK FREE.

THE PEOPLES STATE BANK

TO GET OUT OF DEBT

DO YOU KNOW of any way that is more sure, than regular, systematic saving of a part of your income, that you may nibble off a part of your debt and gradually wear it away?

REGULAR DEPOSITING

of an income and the paying of bills by checks on this bank has helped others to save more--WHY NOT YOU?

First National Bank
LIBERAL, KANSAS

After the hole is put down another 1,000 feet they will, if they do not strike oil, pull the casing back to the 1,250 foot mark and shoot the well. The well drill was not working Sunday for the reason that the company was waiting for casing, which they expected to arrive Tuesday, and they expected to get to drilling Tuesday night.

"Later:--Telephone advice from G. G. Wilcox of Gate at 9 p. m. Wednesday night was to the effect that the casing for the oil well had been received and the drill started that evening."

If it is a fact that the soil of Beaver county is underlaid with a strata of oil there is no reason to doubt that something like that could exist in Seward county, or at least near enough to benefit the town of Liberal. The whole state of Kan-

sas seems to be going wild over oil or the prospects of finding it, and we might as well jump in and try to start something down here.

They Surprised Mr. Yoder

One of the most enjoyable events of the season was the birthday party held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Yoder, on last Friday evening, when thirty-one of the members and friends of the Baptist church surprised Mr. Yoder by going in to remind him of his seventy-first birthday. After Mr. Yoder had somewhat regained his composure from the great surprise, he indeed proved himself an entertaining host. The evening was spent in games and social conversation. At a late hour cake and coffee was served, after which J. D. Stephens spoke briefly of the faithfulness with which Mr. Yoder had served the Liberal

Baptist church as janitor for several years, and of the universal satisfaction he had given in that capacity, and in behalf of the members and friends of the church presented Mr. Yoder with a lovely solid gold watch chain, engraved on one side with the picture of the Liberal Baptist church, and on the other side with the date of this occasion, together with his initials. Mr. Yoder responded very feelingly, telling how well he enjoyed serving the church in this capacity. At a late hour the jolly crowd departed, wishing Mr. Yoder many more happy returns of the day.

O. M. Clouse, promoter of auto races, generally gets the best there is going. He has secured an Overland town car, owned by Lee Larrabee and Chas. Molter, for the use of the judges and timers of the race to be held on the 10th. The new Overland is a car of class and Lee and Charley deserve credit for tendering its services.

Paramount pictures every Monday and Wednesday. Majestic. 1f

J. E. Ward Dead

James Edgar Ward was born in Franklin county, Kansas, September 28, 1860, and died at Topeka January 25, 1916. He was married to Miss Ellen Keith in Chautauqua county, Kansas, in 1884, and to this union 8 children were born. Mr. and Mrs. Ward settled on a farm near Liberal in 1900, and have lived there ever since. Mr. Ward was a member of the Friends church, where the funeral services were held Friday morning. His wife and six children survive him. They are: Mrs. E. S. Smith of Liberal; Mrs. Lee Richardson, Holcomb, Kansas; R. A. Ward, Hutchinson; Mrs. Julius Katzer, Jefferson City, Missouri; Miss Edith Ward, Hutchinson, and Miss Ruth Ward of Liberal. Mr. Ward had been afflicted with bright's disease and heart trouble and had gone to Topeka for treatment in a hospital, but the malady had such a hold on him that he lived only a few days after arriving there. Mr. Ward was one of Seward county's good citizens, and the people of Liberal regret to note his passing on. He was buried in the Liberal cemetery.

Rev. Huff Leaves

Rev. John I. Huff, pastor of the Friends church of Liberal, has resigned his pastorate and left Saturday morning for Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he will engage in mission work. Mr. Huff will be connected with Rev. Geo. Trotter, the well known founder of city missions, and with whom he was associated in like work for two years in Los Angeles. Mr. Huff will be missed by people in all walks of life. He was an able preacher and always had a pleasant word for everyone both in and out of the church, and the Democrat regrets as much as anyone to see him leave the town. The new field he is getting into presents untold opportunities to a young man like Mr. Huff, and we venture the prediction that some day he will be heard from by the world.

Auto Race Postponed

The much-advertised auto race scheduled for last Tuesday was called off on account of snow and bad roads. The pilot car went over the proposed trip Saturday and came back with the information that it would be very dangerous to attempt much speed over certain portions of it. It has been postponed until February 16, and all the entrance fees have been left up by the boys who intend to get into the race.

Mrs. C. C. Adams of Hooker is here visiting her daughters, Mrs. O. M. Woods, Mrs. W. M. Edgington and Miss Faye Adams. She and Miss Faye contemplate a trip to their old home in Illinois next week for a visit with friends and relatives a week or two.

Miss Laura Word returned Friday from Topeka to resume her residence on her claim near Arkalon.

Watches!

On the subject of watches we desire to speak plainly and frankly for the reason that few people who buy watches know much about them. In the majority of cases they set a limit of expenditure without definite knowledge of watch values.

If you are considering the purchase of a watch, our advice is that you buy the best watch you can afford--there is no economy in buying a cheap watch; it means continued trouble and annoyance; whereas a watch well bought will give a lifetime of service and satisfaction.

When we sell you a watch it is part of the transaction for us to see to it that its performance is equal in every respect to the promise made for it.

We are headquarters for

Howard, Hamilton, Elgin and Waltham Watches

We carry in stock a good selection to choose from--take our advice next time and buy a REAL WATCH--You will never regret it.

Wilkins, Jeweler

At Taylor's Drug Store

